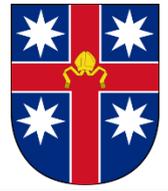




REACHING OUT

Weekly Newsletter of Emmanuel and Kergunyah Churches



Sunday August 24, 2025

9:00a.m. at Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

Uniting tradition led by Carol Harris

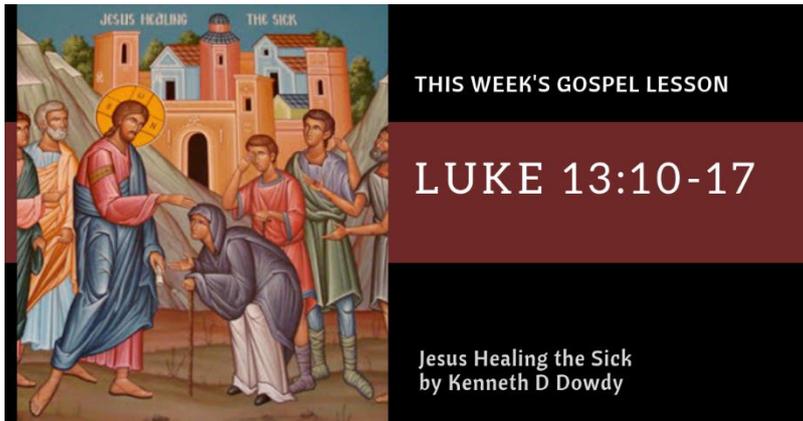
11:15a.m. at Kergunyah Uniting Church

Bible Readings for Sunday August 24

Pentecost 11

Jeremiah 1: 4-10; Psalm 71: 1-6; Hebrews 12: 18-29; Luke 13: 10-17

Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman



Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the

synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Luke13:10-17

Bible Readings for Sunday August 31

Pentecost 12

Jeremiah 2: 4-13; Psalm 81: 1, 10-16; Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16, Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Praying For One Another 2025

In the Uniting Church Presbytery of North East Victoria.

Congregations in the Presbytery are called to pray for one another each time they meet. By naming each other in prayer we enhance our pastoral support with each other, in God's company. This invitation builds our faith linkages every year. This week we pray for the congregations of **Cobram and Katamatite** Sunday, August 24.

Coming Events

Wed. Aug. 27, 9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Fri. Aug. 9, 9:30 a.m.

Sun Aug 31, 11:00 a.m.

Grounds and Maintenance

Morning Tea and Fellowship

Craft Group

Bring-and-share morning tea at St John's to farewell Fr Jacques, and Denise and Xavier. (cont. below)

Donations for Jefferies family – Financial gifts can be made up until August 31, by way of Emmanuel’s Open Plate (labelled envelope), direct deposit in Emmanuel Congregation account (noting for Jefferies) or direct deposit to St. John’s (noting Jefferies). Any gifts via Emmanuel will be forwarded to St. John’s.

A GOD OF COMPASSION

Rev Leonie Findlay

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we thank you that you are a God who heals. We pray Lord, that you would look upon us with eyes of mercy asking that your healing hand will rest upon us cleansing, purifying and restoring us to wholeness. Lord, we are grateful that you not only care about our physical bodies, but are also concerned about our spiritual and relational lives.

God, you know our pain, loss and suffering.

As we pray, we draw inspiration and comfort from Christ’s example of compassion demonstrated in the ways he blessed those whose hearts and bodies were broken. Lord, in the same way may we hold those who are hurting and offer them the cup of compassion. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **AMEN**

SOME THOUGHTS

A truly loving person is one who breathes in the pain of the world, while breathing out compassion. This is how deep compassion is and how closely it is connected to others. Probably, no quality more identifies the life of Christ than that of compassion. Compassion can be very demanding as it is impossible to know the pain and feel the hurt of others. Often the grace of compassion calls us simply to ‘be’ with someone, waiting patiently to experience their powerlessness with them. At other times we are called ‘to do’ something, to give of our time and resources as did the Samaritan in the gospel parable. Sometimes, compassion requires us to receive graciously from another who has need of our receptivity and vulnerability.

Caring persons need to constantly check their motivation for offering compassion. To be sure they are not offering out of their own egocentric needs. Self-care is also essential. One must get near enough to suffering to feel it but not so close as to get lost in or overwhelmed by it.

Our world is a vast interconnectedness of all beings. What is in one is in the whole. This spiritual oneness is at the heart of Christ’s message. Christ is the vine, and we are the branches. We are the body of Christ. (Jn:15;1 Cor12) ‘I hold my life as a gourd filled with love, ready to pour upon humanity.’ (Jessica Powers)

‘My cup of compassion holds tears of the world.

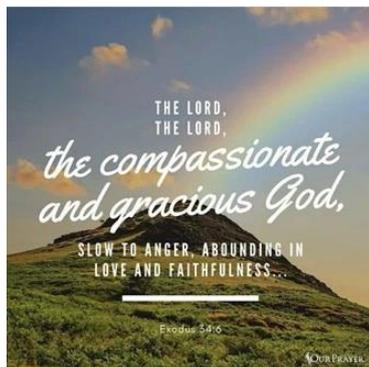
It overflows with sorrows, tears and sadness...

My cup of compassion holds the emptiness of the poor, the searing pain of racism, the impotency of justice...

My cup of compassion I hold it to my heart where the Divine dwells, where love is stronger than death and disaster.’

(Joyce Rupp)

BENEDICTION



The peace of God be in your heart.

The grace of God be in your words.

The love of God be in your hands.

The joy of God be in your soul.

And in the song that your life sings

AMEN

Emmanuel Roster

August 24

Elder on Duty: Rod Clutterbuck
Reader: Colin Harris
Prayers: Rod Clutterbuck

Early Word: Carol Clutterbuck
TV Screen: Harold Cover
Music: LouAnne Stabb

August 31

Elder on Duty: Ted Stabb
Reader: Ted Stabb
Prayers: Carol Harris

Early Word: LouAnne Stabb
TV Screen: Harold Cover
Music: LouAnne Stabb

Emmanuel Contacts

Emmanuel Pastoral Care: speak with an Elder or Warden
Emmanuel Prayer Chain: give requests to Betty Saggars on 0427 761 044
Address: PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Reaching Out: Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com by Wednesday.

Prayer of the Week

Liberia, Sierra Leone



Rice farming in the district of Koinadugu in a remote area of Kabala province, in northern Sierra Leone, an area heavily affected by the civil war in the 1990s. Working with partner Christian Extension Services, World Renew is helping villages in this area with agricultural training to improve farm outputs and with sanitation, clean water supply and post-harvest support to protect harvests.

Photo: Sean Hawkey/Life on Earth

We are thankful for:

- the natural resources in these countries, that they might benefit the peace and welfare of all
- the diverse ethnic and religious groups who long have lived together in peace and harmony, especially the Muslims and Christians in Sierra Leone
- democratic election of leaders who have brought political stability and accountability
- how diseases such as Ebola have been brought under control.

We pray for:

- the churches in these countries, for their evangelism and social outreach, faithful witness and action in times of conflict, and for interfaith cooperation with others
- the majority of the people who are still impoverished, that adequate services and policies will be provided that enable them to live with dignity and good health
- more just governance, free of corruption, accountable to the people, and that manages resources in ways that benefit all.

Pick up your copy from the foyer table!

CROSSLIGHT

The August edition is out now. Read about the upcoming Victoria/Tasmania Synod 2025, (August 30 – Sept. 2) and the to be installed Moderator, Rev. Salesi Faupula.



A MATTER OF PRIORITIES

By Bill Pugh

There is so much to do each day, whether working or using leisure time.

The home has to be kept in order, with renovations, painting, and gardens to be maintained.

It means we are tired at the end of the day.

But what about prayer time and Bible study, they are very important.

Our spiritual life is important.

God is never too busy to cater for us.

Maybe it's time to adjust our daily program for spiritual life and development as a real priority.

Jesus explained it to his disciples thus: "Seek you first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." (Luke 12:31)

www.victas.uca.org.au/resources | Photo by freepik.com | August 2025

Bequest

Remember the Church in your will.

A bequest will help continue to work of the Church long after you're gone. There are many ways a bequest can help the work of the Church - whether for a specific cause that's dear to your heart, for a specific congregation or for the general purposes of the life of the Church.



Want to know more?

Speak to your solicitor or financial advisor, or visit the Synod's website:

www.victas.uca.org.au